

QCPR? What is it...

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QCPR (A/RES/71/243)

(of operational activities for development of the United Nations system)

- **Q = quadrennial = 4 years**

Resolution discussed every four years in the second committee of the General Assembly (2012, 2016, 2020, before 2012 it was TCPR (3 yr)), but the follow-up of its implementation is done yearly in the ECOSOC OAS (operational activities segment) resolution. The Second committee also has a yearly resolution on the QCPR, mostly procedural or to bring the ECOSOC updates into the GA.

- **C = comprehensive = all UN development, but...**

Should cover all aspects of operational activities for development of the United Nation system. More than 30 UN entities (funds and programs, specialized agencies) are active in development. UNSDG (United Nations Sustainable Development Group) or UNDS (United Nations development system, generic name, no official list of members) are usually considered as the operational activities for development of the United Nation system.

- **P = policy = strategic, but...**

The resolution focuses on the policy level. It gives guidance on how the UNDS should work and includes some normative elements that are valid for all (Agenda 2030). The resolution gives also practical guidance that are more specific than a policy! It has become a mix of strategic and policy level and more operational aspects.

- **R = review = accountable**

The resolution builds over the years and is based on thorough reviews made by UN DESA (SG reports). It has a review mechanism (ECOSOC annual resolutions) that is based on annual SG implementation reports.



UN Sustainable Development Group

The United Nations System

UN PRINCIPAL ORGANS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

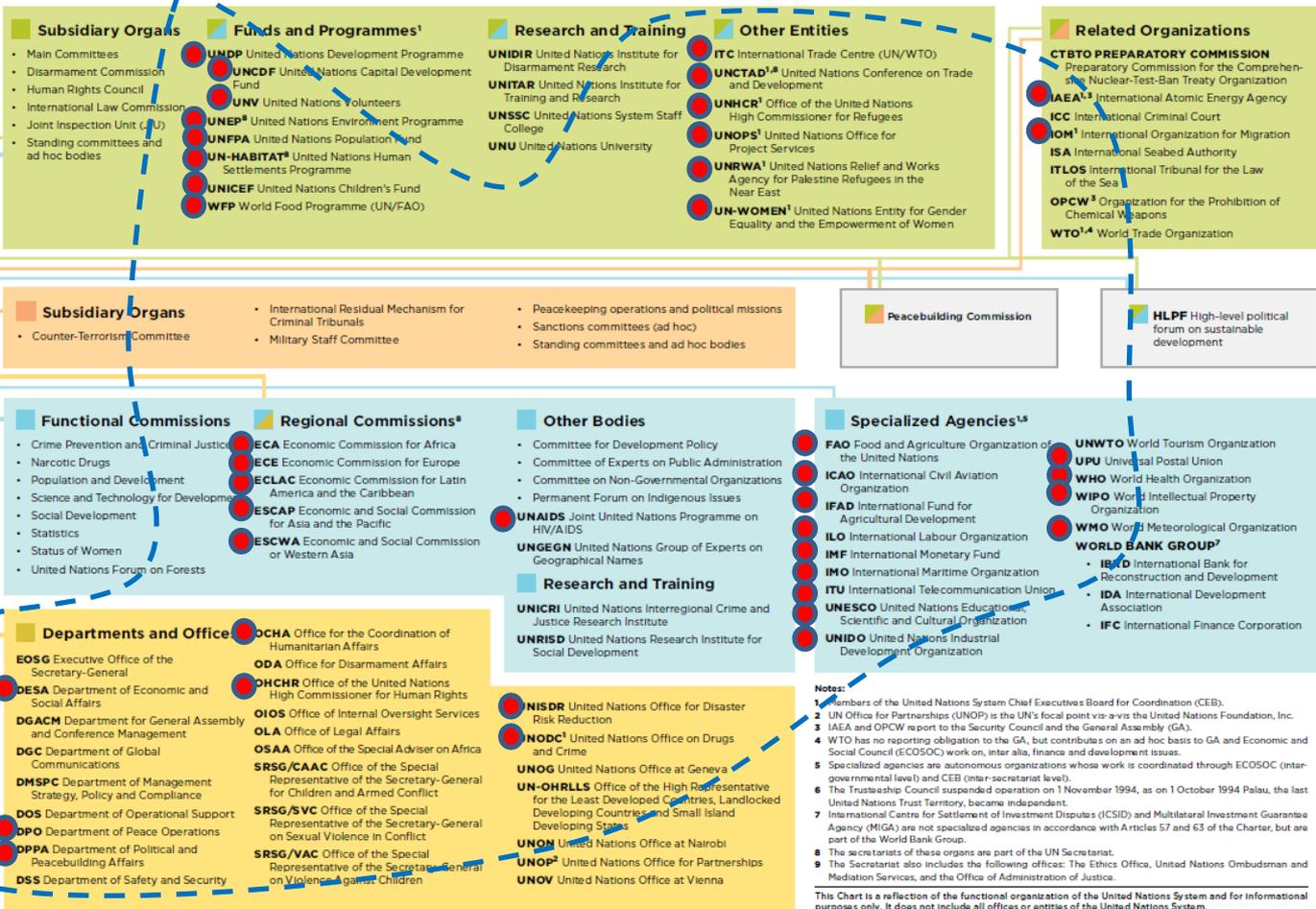
SECURITY COUNCIL

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

SECRETARIAT

INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE

TRUSTEESHIP COUNCIL⁶



Notes:

- Members of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB).
- UN Office for Partnerships (UNOP) is the UN's focal point vis-à-vis the United Nations Foundation, Inc.
- IAEA and OPCW report to the Security Council and the General Assembly (GA).
- WTO has no reporting obligation to the GA, but contributes on an ad hoc basis to GA and Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) work on, inter alia, finance and development issues.
- Specialized agencies are autonomous organizations whose work is coordinated through ECOSOC (inter-governmental level) and CEB (intra-secretariat level).
- The Trusteeship Council suspended operation on 1 November 1994, as on 1 October 1994 Palau, the last United Nations Trust Territory, became independent.
- International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) are not specialized agencies in accordance with Articles 57 and 63 of the Charter, but are part of the World Bank Group.
- The secretariats of these organs are part of the UN Secretariat.
- The Secretariat also includes the following offices: The Ethics Office, United Nations Ombudsman and Mediation Services, and the Office of Administration of Justice.

This Chart is a reflection of the functional organization of the United Nations System and for informational purposes only. It does not include all offices or entities of the United Nations System.

Role and responsibilities

- Mandatory for Funds and Programmes and other entities that depend on the GA (UNDP, UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, UNOPS, UNEP, WFP, ITC, UNCTAD, UN Habitat, UNHCR, UNRWA)
- Specialized agencies are strongly encouraged to follow it as well (FAO, WHO, ILO...)
- DESA does the follow-up reports (monitoring and reporting framework)
- Each fund and programme should include in their yearly report to their boards the progress on the implementation of QCPR.
- The role and behavior of Member States in the different organs and bodies of the UNDS should be consistent with the QCPR.

Why is QCPR important ?

- QCPR asks the UNDS to function as a system (collaboration, coordination, efficiency, division of labor...), and not independent actions.
- QCPR helps government to have a unique UN interlocutor (RC) to implement the Agenda 2030 through a united framework (UNSDCF) and system-wide guidance and knowledge sharing
- QCPR gives guidance for the strategic plans of the funds and programs and is in line with the High Level political Forum (HLPF)
- 4 years cycle and cascade
 - 2015: Agenda 2030, every 4 years HLPF GA (2019, 2023)
 - 2016 2020 2024: QCPR
 - 2017, 2021 : approval strategic plans 2018-2021/ 2022-25 of Funds/Programs

Main topics covered by the QCPR

Structure of the resolution A/RES/71/243 (84 operational paragraphs, 19 pages)

Some references

Preamble paragraphs (17 OP) (Agenda 2030, AAAA, Paris, Sendai ...)

1. General Guidelines (15 OP) (Art 1 national ownership; Art 6 Leave no one behind; Art 14 Whole of System response)

2. Contribution of UN operational activities for development (9 OP)

Mainstreaming the Agenda 2030

Art 17 a – c

Develop a system-wide strategic document and funding modalities

Art 20

→ System Wide Strategic Document
& Funding Compact

Improve support to national capacities

Art 21 a – e

Mainstream and enhance South South and Triangular Cooperation

Art 23

Enhance coordination with humanitarian assistance and peace building

Art 24 a - b

3. Funding of operational activities for development of the UN system (19 OP)

Critical mass of core funding

Art 29

Full cost recovery

Art 35

→ Executive Boards

Mobilize multiple funding sources

Art 37

Urges entities to align integrated budgets with QCPR resolution

Art 43

→ Executive Boards

4. Strengthening the governance of the UN operational activities for development (3 OP)

More efficient governance architecture

Art 44

Enhance system wide coherence

Art 45 a – c

5. Improving the functioning of the UN development system (28 OP)

Adapt the system to the Agenda 2030

Art 47

Leadership of the RC

Art 50 a – i

Improve efficiency of the RC system (incl. approp. Funding)

Art 57 a – i

Review Multi country offices

Art 67

→ MCO Review

Introduce Knowledge management strategies and policies

Art 69

→ Regional Collaborative Platforms

System wide evaluation mechanisms

Art 75

6. Follow-up. Monitoring and review (9 OP)

Agenda 2030: UNDS to work coordinated while preserving mandates

Art 76

All entities to align planning and action with QCPR

Art 78

Comprehensive monitoring of system-wide and individual-entity activities

Art 79

biannual Survey and SG reporting to ECOSOC

Art 81/83/84

Resolution 72/279 (May 2018)

Starting Point: Elaboration of the Agenda 2030 (2014) and make the UNDS fit for purpose

1. Step ECOSOC dialogue with analysis, expert papers
2. Step SG Progress Report
3. Step QCPR 2016
4. Step Res 72/279

Implementation of QCPR

QCPR : SG to present a comprehensive proposal to strengthen Resident Coordinator system at the GA72 (OP 58)

Res 72/279:

- Delinking of the RC system from UNDP (OP 08) → Implementation Plan
- Predictable Funding (OP10)
- Creating DCO (OP 17)

QCPR: Introduce or strengthen knowledge Management strategies and policies (OP 70)

Res 72/279:

- Address gaps and overlaps at the regional level, Options for reprofiling and restructuring the regional assets (OP 19) → Regional Review

QCPR: The Agenda 2030 requires a more sustainable funding approach (OP 25-43)

Res 72/279:

- Elaborate Funding Compact (OP 25) → Funding Compact

QCPR: SG to present a system-wide strategic document ... to support the implementation of the Agenda 2030

Res 72/279:

- Elaborate a System-wide strategic Document (OP 30) → System-wide Strategic Document

Some challenges of UNDS

- Fulfilling the Agenda 2030 is beyond development activities
- Implementing the Agenda 2030 - which trade-offs between the SDGs
- Implementation of the UNDS Reform
- Implementation of the System –wide Strategic Document
- Further improve the governance structure
- Live up to the agreed Funding Compact
- Response to the COVID 19 crisis
- Nexus - work between development, humanitarian and peace building?

Can the QCPR alone address all those challenges?

10-15 year vision: Interesting role of the ongoing ECOSOC dialogue on the longer term positioning of the UNDS and its influence on the next 3 or 4 QCPR (each 4 yr).

Some personal inputs

- Topics of intense discussions in the last years:
 - Climate Change ?
 - Repositioning of the RC System (cont.)
 - Critical mass of core resources (structured financing dialogue)
 - Impact of COVID 19
 - Partnerships within and outside the UN

Let's don't make it too complicated...

